

THE INDIANA EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION
INDIANA EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMITTEE (IERC) MEETING
Indiana Government Center South, Conference Room 18
302 West Washington Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
September 10, 2007, at 1:00 P.M.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Chairman Wojtalewicz welcomed everyone to the meeting and stated that the Commission had some important issues to discuss regarding the upcoming IERC conference. He asked for roll call.

ROLL CALL TO ORDER

Cliff Wojtalewicz—Chairman	Thomas Melville—State Government
Dean Larson—Public	Mike Bigler—State Government
Bernie Beier—Local Government	Brian Lott—Local Government
Robert Reilley—Industry	Jim Pridgen—Industry
Carol Shelby—Public	

The following Commission members were absent:

William Reed—Public	Michael Pace—Industry
Sherman Greer—Local Government	Bruce Palin—State Government

The following staff members were present:

John Steel—IDHS	Ian Ewusi—IDHS/IDEM
Mara Snyder—IDHS	Laura Stedham—IDEM

The following members of the audience were present:

Ed Rock—Kosciusko County	Becky Waymire—Morgan County
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QUORUM

A quorum was present.

CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES

Mr. Thomas Melville indicated that his designation as a public representative should be corrected to state government. Motion was made by Mr. Pridgen to amend minutes to reflect the correction and was seconded by Mr. Bigler. **MOTION CARRIED.**

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chairman Wojtalewicz indicated that there was nothing to report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Communications Committee— John Steel reported for Sherman Greer, Chair

Mr. Steel reported that the Communications Committee had met earlier that morning to select the LEPC award recipients for the upcoming conference. He reported that Grant, Jefferson and Madison Counties would receive Administrative Achievement Awards; Marion County would receive a Commodity Flow Award; Lake and Vanderburgh Counties would receive Plan Exercise Awards; Lake, Vanderburgh and Wabash Counties would receive Outreach to the Public Awards; and Lake and Wabash Counties would receive Planning Awards. Additionally, Ms. Jeanne Mahoney had been selected to receive the Director's Award in recognition of 24 years of service with the St. Joseph County LEPC and Emergency Management.

Technical Committee—James Pridgen, Chair

Mr. Pridgen indicated that there was nothing to report but that the committee had scheduled a joint Policy and Technical Committee meeting on November 13, 2007, at 10:00 A.M.

Policy Committee—Dean Larson, Chair

Mr. Larson reported that the Policy Committee had not met. He asked the Commission members to review the IERC policy manual and forward their comments, changes or updates to the committee. He indicated that the committee would review all of the submissions at the next meeting.

Training Committee—Bernie Beier

Mr. Beier reported that the committee had had a small meeting and was working on the coordination between the LEPCs and fire training councils because there were similarities between both groups. He indicated that Hazmat training and funding was one such example, where the IERC provides funding while the fire training councils provide awareness and operations level training. He reported that over the next two months, the committee would be exploring what funding sources—including the HMEP grant—were available for technician training at the district level.

Mr. Beier reported that the committee had also discussed training certifications and what type of system was in place to track the quality of training offered and funded by the LEPCs. Lastly, Mr. Beier reported that it seemed LEPC exercises were not meeting the purposes for which they were intended. This observation had resulted from his participation in recent exercises in which exercise scenarios seemed to be hastily put together to meet LEPC exercise funding requirements but not to test the LEPC plan. He indicated that the committee would be looking into this perception or problem.

Fiscal Committee—Bruce Palin

The committee had nothing to report.

Chairman Wojtalewicz called for a motion to approve all committee reports, which was moved by Mr. Melville and seconded by Ms. Shelby. **MOTION CARRIED.**

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Mara Snyder offered a legislative update on the following topics:

1. The use of LEPC funds to maintain equipment purchased with LEPC funds
She indicated that the request had been submitted to the Administration but that there was no word or answer on any proposed legislation to date.

2. Ethics issues concerning LEPC members

She stated that a memo from Mr. Wojtalewicz addressing this issue and specific questions asked by various LEPC members had been posted at the IERC website. She also noted that people should contact ethics personnel if they have additional questions.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Ed Rock from Kosciusko County indicated that he had been working on finalizing the agenda for the October IERC/EMAI conference. A discussion ensued on sending mass emails to LEPCs and EMAs alerting and encouraging them to attend the LEPC 101 session being offered on Thursday, October 11, 2007. Mr. Rock requested that another email go out to the counties to determine how many people would be attending that session. Chairman Wojtalewicz also reported that Ed Buikema, Director of FEMA Region V, was scheduled to speak Friday morning at the conference to discuss the new FEMA over the next 4–5 years.

Mr. Bigler discussed the new CSX Commodity Flow Study, also called the Hazardous Materials Flow Study for Indiana. He reported that CSX has rail in about 25–30 counties and had developed a hazard ranking for the top 25 rail tank cars of hazardous materials that go through these counties. Mr. Bigler wanted to let the LEPCs know the benefits of conducting Commodity Flow Studies and encourage them to take advantage of the work CSX had done on the subject.

REPORT OF THE FIELD COORDINATOR

Mr. Ewusi reported that at the last meeting he had been charged with conducting a survey of the 4,800 facilities for the purpose of electronic Tier II reporting. Mr. Ewusi indicated that the survey had not been completed due to feasibility issues.

Ms. Snyder indicated that the Chamber of Commerce may be able to help with the survey because the organization has assistants who focus on environmental affairs and, therefore, may have a way to communicate with their membership (i.e., hazardous materials facilities). Mr. Ewusi noted that LEPCs are very much in favor of electronic Tier II reporting. Ms. Snyder inquired about the financial impact on small companies if the Commission issued a date by which electronic Tier II reports would be required (instead of paper reports) and then assessed penalties for submitting paper reports. She noted that this matter should be reviewed and addressed later.

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER APPROVALS

No new roster submissions for approval.

LEPC COMMENTS

None

EPA COMMENTS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Larson stated that in Beijing the previous month there had been a conference on disaster management and that one of the presentations was on Indiana's response to the situation in Biloxi, Mississippi, after Hurricane Katrina. He noted that Mr. George Thompson had represented Indiana

DHS and that there had been a lot of questions raised. Mr. Wojtalewicz asked Mr. Steel to make copies of the presentation available to the Commission members.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, November 13, 2007, at 1:00 P.M.

Indiana Government Center South, Teleconference Media Center

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 2:01 P.M.

Cliff Wojtalewicz, IDHS Proxy Chair